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MRS. PRUDENCE W. KOFOID

The Province of Quebec

(PROVINCE)

ITS PRODUCTS AND ITS RESOURCES



PUBLISHED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
QUEBEC

AUGUST, 1911



HC 117
Q4A2
1911
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ITS PRODUCTS AND ITS RESOURCES

The Province of Quebec ranks second among the provinces of the Dominion of Canada, both as regards size and population. British Columbia alone is larger than Quebec, and only Ontario, of all the provinces, has more inhabitants.

Quebec province contains a superficies of 346,875 square miles, being almost three times as large as the entire British Isles, or much larger than France and the British Isles together.

Its population, according to the census of 1901, was 1,648,898. The total showing of the province by the census of 1911 is not yet available, but it is estimated that there has been an increase of at least 25 p.c., which will show a total population of considerably over two millions.

Geographically the province extends over 22 degrees of longitude, namely, from 57 to 79 west, and over eight degrees of latitude, from 45 to 53 north. With the anticipated annexation of Ungava, Quebec hopes to extend its northern limit to Hudson Straits and to double its present size.

Constitution and Government

This province, which is the oldest of the Canadian Confederation, sends 65 members to the Dominion House of Commons, and the proportion of 65 to the population of the

province, according to the last decennial census, is the unit of representation in the federal house for each of the sister provinces. In other words, each of these latter is entitled to such a number of members as will bear the same proportion to the number of its population as the number 65 bears to the number of the population of Quebec.

The provincial legislature consists of a Lieutenant-Governor, appointed by the Governor-General-in-Council, a Legislative Council of 24 members, appointed for life by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and an elective Legislative Assembly of 74 members.

The seat of government is in Quebec, where the handsome block of buildings, including the parliament house and departmental offices, is one of the principal architectural attractions of the provincial capital.

The executive power is vested in the King represented by the Lieutenant-Governor, who is advised by a cabinet consisting chiefly of ministers holding departmental offices, and often including one or more ministers without portfolios. The government holds office as long as it has the confidence of the popular branch of the Legislature.

At this date (August, 1911), the Lieutenant-Governor of the province is the Honorable Sir Francois Langelier, Knight, K.C., LL.D., and his cabinet is composed as follows, the names of the ministers being given in order of precedence :—

Hon. Sir Lomer Gouin, Premier and Attorney-General.

Hon. Jules Allard, Minister of Lands and Forests.

Hon. J. C. Kaine, (without portfolio).

Hon. Charles R. Devlin, Minister of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries.

Hon. L. A. Taschereau, Minister of Public Works and Labour.

Hon. Jérémie Décarie, Secretary and Registrar of the Province.

Hon. Jos. Edward Caron, Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. P. S. G. Mackenzie, Provincial Treasurer.

Hon. N. Pérodeau, (without portfolio).

Climate

The climate is the healthiest known, and physicians from many parts of America send tubercular patients both to the sanitarium at St. Agathe, in the mountains to the north of Montreal, and to that at Lake Edward, a hundred miles north of Quebec.

During the four coldest months of the year the average temperature is 15 degrees Fahrenheit in December, 10 in January, 10 to 15 in February, and 20 to 25 in March. There are some days when the mercury drops as low as 20 to 30 degrees below zero, but the atmosphere is so dry that but little discomfort is experienced, even by those who indulge in winter sports in the coldest weather.

The heavy snow-fall protects the grass and autumn-sown grain from damage by frost, and as in England, tulips and crocuses which have remained in the ground all winter, push their green shoots through the disappearing snow-banks in early spring.

The rapidity of vegetation is little short of marvellous. Peas and beans ripen six weeks after being sown. The thermometer sometimes registers 70 degrees and over in the month of May, and in the early part of July, 1911, it stood at over 80 in the shade at Quebec for several days together. The same temperature was reached early in August.

In the large agricultural areas of the province, not alone in the Eastern Townships, which adjoin the United States, south of the St. Lawrence, and have long been known as the garden of the province, but also in the newer areas in the north, which have been more recently wrested from the forest, the soil is of extraordinary richness.

Agriculture

Grain of all kinds produces excellent returns. Oats, potatoes and hay are heavy crops. Notwithstanding the amount of fodder fed to live stock in winter, thousands of tons of hay are annually exported to the United States. The yield of hay for 1907 was over four million tons. In 1910 the yield is believed to have been close upon five millions of tons, valued at fifty millions of dollars. Wheat flourishes in the northernmost settlements.

Quebec has nearly ten million acres of cleared arable land.

The dairy industry is one of the most important of the province. In 1891 the output of all its cheese and butter factories was only \$2,918,527. In 1901 this output had increased to \$12,874,377, and in 1909 to \$17,844,135. The value of other dairy products than those which passed through the factories would bring the present total yield of the industry in this province to over \$30,000,000.

Quebec prides itself even more upon the quality than upon the quantity of its dairy produce. Its butter has always held first place on both home and foreign markets, though its cheese, for many years, suffered in its reputation for quality in comparison with that of some of the sister provinces, from the injudicious system of marketing and the absence of grading. Even when this was remedied, certain exporters found it easier to sell prime Quebec cheese as the Ontario article, so that the credit of the best dairy produce of Quebec went to another province. The comparatively recent formation, however, of the Quebec Cheesemakers' Agricultural Co-operative Society is rapidly righting this wrong, and steps are being taken by it to prevent the practice pursued by some shippers of removing the Quebec marks from the cheeses or from the boxes containing them. That Quebec has nothing to fear from competition with other provinces in this connection is shown by the fact that prime Quebec cheese commands as high, and even higher prices upon the wholesale markets than similar Ontario grades. The *Montreal Gazette* of Friday, August 4th, 1911, gives the prices obtained at the Board of Trade sale on the preceding day as follows:

Quebec cheese: 658 boxes finest white, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents; 1072 boxes, No. 2 quality, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents; 351 boxes finest colored, 12 5-16 cents; 224 boxes, No. 2 quality, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents.

On the same day 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 12 5-16 was paid at Vankleek Hill, Ont., for white; the colored selling for 12 5-16. At Brockville, says the *Gazette*, the ruling price was 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents, and about 6,000 boxes were turned over. A Kingston despatch in the same column of the *Gazette* says: "The highest price of the season was paid; 12 3-8 cents for white, and 12 5-16 for colored."

The raising of beef cattle is a business of considerable im-

portance in the Eastern Townships. Mixed farming is pretty generally practised here, as well as in many other portions of the province, and in these townships, where improved, or partly cleared farms may be acquired, often with farm buildings and stock, English farmers will find conditions prevailing, more closely resembling those left behind in the old land than in other parts of Quebec, or even in the North-West.

Market gardening flourishes near the cities, especially in the vicinity of Montreal. In this district, too, as well as in the Eastern Townships, there are many orchards, where large quantities of apples, pears, cherries and other fruits are grown. Montreal apples and melons are famous wherever known. There are good orchards of apples, plums and cherry trees in different parts of the Quebec district, and excellent Swedish turnips are produced for the table, and are in great demand on the Montreal market. Tobacco is grown in Montcalm, Joliette and other counties.

The agricultural and dairy societies, the agricultural and dairy schools, the farmers' clubs, the fruit growers' associations, the inspection of butter and cheese factories, and everything relating to agriculture in the province are under the control of the department of agriculture, which has its headquarters in the city of Quebec, and is under the direction of the provincial Minister of Agriculture.

This department, fully realizing the fact that the prosperity of the agricultural community lies at the very root of the national well-being, has done much, especially in recent years, to ameliorate the condition of the farming community in general and of new settlers in particular. Largely increased aid has been given to agricultural schools, and the establishment of a school of Dairy Industry at St. Hyacinthe, together with the compulsory inspection of butter and cheese factories have been productive of excellent results. It is impossible to say to what extent the higher prices obtained by our farmers for their dairy products are not due to the superior quality of the butter and cheese, assured by the official inspection of the factories.

A great boon to the agricultural population of the province is the rapid improvement being made in the rural roads. No

less than \$170,000 was spent last year in the making and improvement of colonization roads in the newer sections of the province, by the colonization department of the province. On roads in the older parishes, the government expenditure is being so rapidly increased that though its contribution in 1905-06 was but \$9,661, its expenditure for the current fiscal year, through the department of agriculture, is to be \$250,000. The additional sum of \$125,000 is being expended by the Department of Public Works upon the construction of iron bridges in various parts of the province. Quebec thus promises to have at an early date some of the best country roads in America.

Taking up Land

Out of the enormous area of land suitable for agricultural purposes in the Province of Quebec, more than six and a quarter million acres have already been surveyed and subdivided into farm lots and are now available for settlement. This land is almost given away to *bonâ-fide* settlers, for it is sold to them at prices varying from 20 to 60 cents per acre, and in lots of one hundred acres each, so that the poorest settler can always hope to become the owner of one or more lots. Only one-fifth of the purchase price needs to be paid at the time of purchase, the balance being payable in four equal annual instalments. There are certain conditions of settlement to be complied with, but they are not difficult. A suitable house, measuring at least 16 by 20 feet must be built within 18 months, and must be occupied until the deeds or letters-patent are issued, five years after purchase, by which time the settler must have 15 acres of land cleared and in cultivation, and a small barn and stable erected. Until the issue of the letters-patent no timber must be sold outside of that hewn in clearing. Many settlers who took up land in this manner are now among the most comfortable and most well-to-do farmers of the province. Cleared and partly cleared farms of all kinds, with or without stock and buildings, and ready for the newcomer to take immediate possession of, can be purchased at almost any time from old settlers who are prepared to clear up new land for themselves.

Timber Resources

The timber resources of the Province of Quebec are enormous. Portions of the timber forests are private property ; other portions have been leased by the government to lumbermen, with the right to cut timber thereon, subject to certain restrictions ; and by far the larger part of the forests are still the absolute property of the province.

The private woodlands of the Province of Quebec include those owned by the farming community, and those forming part of the various seigniorial domains, that is to say, tracts of land that were ceded to private individuals by the Crown in the early days of the colony. As a rule, these individual forests are of small extent, rarely exceeding fifty acres each, excepting in the case of Anticosti island, and of certain seigniorial domains such as those of the Quebec Seminary and of the Joly de Lotbinière estate. The whole of these private forests do not exceed six millions of acres. About half of the timber on these properties is hardwood, the other half soft wood. The total value of the privately owned forests in Quebec is estimated by the forestry service at \$25,000,000, and they produce an annual revenue of some \$3,000,000. The maple sugaries alone produce at least \$1,300,000 a year, and private owners of wood lots sell each year more than 500,000 cords of pulpwood, worth \$2.00 per cord.

The forests that have been leased to lumbermen are usually described as timber limits. Their total area is 70,058 square miles or 45 millions of acres, and they constitute the richest and most accessible forests of the province. The first timber limits were leased in 1825 by private sale, for nominal sums, and these leases were only good for a single year. In 1841 the leases were made renewable from year to year.

To obtain these timber lands, lumbermen were originally required to pay as a guarantee, only one-quarter of the estimated stumpage dues for the year. Later on a bonus was substituted for this payment for the privilege of obtaining such leases. It was only in 1868, after the government of the Province had taken possession of its forests, that the leases of these valuable concessions were put up at auction. Bonuses varying from \$8.00 to \$1,000 a square mile have

been obtained on these sales. From 1867, the date of Confederation, up to 1906, when Sir Lomer Gouin decided to dispose of no more timber lands belonging to the province, successive governments leased 51,000 square miles of forest lands, in addition to the 19,000 which had been previously leased by the government under the Union of the Provinces. The premiums, or amount of "bonus", as they are now called, on the leases of timber limits between 1867 and 1906, represented a sum of \$3,250,000, or an average of about \$63.74 per square mile. *per acre*

In 1851, an annual tax payable at each yearly renewal of a timber cutting license was imposed, and is known as ground rent. In 1868, this amounted to two dollars per square mile. In 1887 it was increased to three dollars, and in 1910 to five dollars per square mile.

In addition to this ground rent or rental, the holders of timber licenses have to pay stumpage dues to the government for all the timber cut by them upon their limits. These dues are fixed for a term of ten years, and vary according to the class and size of the wood cut. At the last revision of these dues in 1910, they were almost doubled. The amount of timber cut in the forests is not only reported by lumbermen to the government, but is also measured by officials of the Crown Lands Department.

To assure, as far as possible, the continuance of forest growth, no trees can be cut of less than certain specified diameters, varying from 7 to 13 inches, according to the class of timber; and in order to facilitate Canadian industry, it has been provided by Sir Lomer Gouin's government that all timber cut on crown lands must hereafter be manufactured in Canada. The result of this provision, which prevents the export of pulpwood cut on crown lands in this province for the purpose of feeding factories in the United States, has caused the enlargement of existing pulp and paper mills in Canada, and the establishment of many new ones.

From 1867 to 1909, the timber limits of the Province of Quebec brought to the government in bonuses on price of sales, in ground rents, in stumpage dues, in penalties, in fees upon transfers of leases or licenses, etc., the sum of \$29,300,000. The industry furnishes employment to over

twenty thousand lumbermen in the woods all through the winter season, and to thousands of log drivers in the spring and of saw-mill men, railway and schooner men and ship laborers during the seasons of milling and navigation.

In absolute possession of the government there still remain 80,000,000 acres of forest lands in this province, upon which no timber whatever has been cut, though some sections have been swept by forest fires, as in the case of many private lands and timber limits. No other country possesses such a large and valuable reserve of forest area. Its growth is chiefly of resinous trees, spruce and jack pine being the most abundant. This region alone is able to furnish at least a hundred million cords of pulpwood. Many of the best of these lands, which have hitherto been practically inaccessible, are now being opened up and made immensely valuable by the construction through their midst of the Transcontinental railway. Whenever the government chooses to open up any of these rich forests for lumbering operations, their immediate vicinity will witness the construction and operation of pulp and paper mills, whose motive power in the shape of the "white coal" of innumerable water-powers has been running to waste in the far north for countless ages.

For the protection and perpetuation of its rich forests, which have been valued at no less than \$450,000,000, the government has recently established an efficient forestry service, headed by forestry engineers of the highest standing, whose staff is to be hereafter recruited from the students of a forestry school recently endowed by the province.

The prevention of forest fires and the reforestation of its wild and denuded lands are also receiving prominent attention at the hands of the government, and an interesting illustration of the importance attached to forest preservation is furnished by the creation in recent years of a large number of Forestry Reserves. The only one in existence in the entire province in 1905 was the Laurentides National Park, and this is, properly speaking, rather a fish and game than a forestry reserve. Since its advent to power, the government of Sir Lomer Gouin has successively created the following reserves: the Gaspé Park, containing 2,523 square miles, the Rimouski Reserve, 1,250 square miles, the Chaudiere Reserve, 156

square miles, the Temiscouata Reserve, 227 square miles, the Bonaventure Reserve, 1,733 square miles, the Labrador Reserve, 110,000 square miles, the Barachois Reserve, 113 square miles, the St. Maurice Reserve, 21,121 square miles, the Ottawa Reserve, 27,652 square miles, the Rivière-Ouelle Reserve, 340 square miles, making a total of 165,115 square miles. Including the Laurentides National Park, the Reserves above mentioned contain 107,767,253 acres, which not only exceeds the amount of similar reserves in all the other provinces of the Dominion, but also places the province at the head of the American continent, since it has set apart more territory for forest reserves than the entire American Union has similarly reserved.

Mines and Minerals

To those interested in the mining industry, the Province of Quebec offers an attractive diversity of zoological indications, the rocks which cover nine-tenths of its surface being largely mineralized. The rocks of the pre-Cambrian system on the north of the St. Lawrence, including those of Keewatin, Laurentian and Huronian formations, contain gold, silver, lead, nickel, copper, iron, zinc, phosphate, mica and graphite.

South of the St. Lawrence, in the Eastern Townships, beds of the palaeozoic system prevail, embracing the Cambrian, Calcareous, Chazy, Trenton and Utica formations, as well as Devonian beds. There are sedimentary rocks, such as limestones and sandstones, which furnish excellent building stone; shales and slates which supply slates and materials for the manufacture of bricks, cement, etc. These formations are frequently penetrated and intruded by rocks of igneous origin, like the Montreal mountain and Mount Belœil, and the wide serpentine belt crossing the counties of Brome, Shefford, Richmond, Wolfe and Megantic, which rocks contain asbestos, copper, chrome and gold.

In 1910 the value of the mineral products of Quebec province was \$2,546,076. In 1905 it was \$3,750,300; in 1909, \$5,552,062, and in 1910, \$7,323,281.

Asbestos headed the list, last year, of the most valuable mining products of the province, with a total value of \$2,-

667,829. Cement came next, with an output of 1,563,717 barrels, valued at \$1,954,646. Then followed bricks, \$906,375, limestone \$503,175, granite \$291,240, lime \$279,306, tiles, pipes, pottery, etc., \$197,526, marble \$151,103, copper and sulphur, \$145,165, etc.

The asbestos mines of the Province of Quebec furnish about 85 p.c. of the world's production of this substance, the figures for 1910 having been 80,605 tons from this province, out of a world's total of about 95,000 tons. The deposits of this mineral at Thetford and Black Lake, 75 miles south of Quebec, were discovered in 1878 during the construction of the Quebec Central Railway, the roadbed of which runs over some of the richest veins. The mining is practically all open ¹¹¹⁵cast and the quarries are close to the railway, the ore being extracted from large excavations or pits, some of which are 500 feet in diameter and 200 in depth. Even at the greatest depth yet reached, no diminution in either the quantity or quality of the mineral is observed.

Only two copper mines are in operation in the province, but the industry is susceptible of important developments. One of these mines, that of Eustis, South Sherbrooke, is the deepest in the province and the shaft goes down 3,000 feet, at an angle of 40 degrees. It has been worked for 30 years and continues to produce regularly. The reports of the Dominion Geological Survey mention more than 600 localities in this province where the presence of copper has been noted.

Pig iron has been produced at Radnor Forges since 1740, but the production of iron ore has not been very active for some years past. The large deposits of magnetic iron sand at Moisie, Natashquan, Bersimis and elsewhere are now considered worthy of special attention in view of the progress made in Europe in recent years in processes connected with the electro-metallurgy of iron.

Mica and plumbago, or graphite, are produced in the vicinity of Buckingham, north of the Ottawa river, chrome iron in Coleraine, Megantic County, and gold in an auriferous region in the county of Beauce, in the Chaudiere valley, 50 miles south of Quebec, where between 1865 and 1880 the precious metal was taken out of alluvial deposits, by quite

primitive methods, to the value of \$2,500,000. After a neglect of several years, the working of these deposits is now showing signs of active resumption on a large scale and a company furnished with a modern plant has just started operations by hydraulicing.

In the absence of coal the province is fortunate enough to possess hundreds of square miles of valuable deposits of peat, and the development of this industry, which is only in its initial stage, bids fair to become an important source of fuel supply for both industrial and domestic purposes.

In the 375,000 square miles of the Province of Quebec, the prospector finds an inviting field. At the present time much attention is being given to the north-western part of the province, where prospectors are searching for the extension eastwards of the silver formations of Cobalt and of the gold belt of Porcupine. The geological conditions are exactly the same on the Quebec side of the boundary as on that of Ontario, and there is every reason to anticipate important discoveries of minerals in the region to the east of Lake Abitibi traversed by the Transcontinental railway.

The mining laws of the province are exceedingly favorable to prospectors. First of all, a miner's certificate, costing \$10, must be obtained, which gives the bearer the right to prospect on all lands on which the mines belong to the crown and to stake claims up to a maximum area of 200 acres. Immediately after staking his claims, the miner must record his claim at the Department, on a form supplied him for the purpose. For six months after staking his claim the miner has nothing more to pay, but he must continue exploration and development work equal to at least 25 days' labor. At the expiration of the six months, the prospector, in order to conserve his rights, must take out a mining license, costing 50 cents per acre, besides a fee of \$10, good for one year. During the year he must continue work at the rate of 25 days' labor for each claim of forty acres under license. This permit is renewable indefinitely on the same conditions. Later on he may buy these mining lands outright and obtain a title in fee simple. But either way offers absolute security of title.

The establishment of joint stock companies for the purpose

of carrying on mining operations in the Province of Quebec is particularly facilitated by existing legislation, especially under the provisions of "The Quebec Companies' Act," (7 Ed. VII, c. 48), and of "The Quebec Mining Companies' Act," (63 V., c. 33). The prompt incorporation of such companies by letters-patent is provided for, instead of the costly and tedious method of legislative enactment in each individual case. No watering of stock is permitted, and every conceivable safeguard of the interests of shareholders in such companies is provided by the law on the subject, copies of which may be obtained by addressing the Provincial Secretary of Quebec. X

Fish and Game

Next to its lands and forests, the fish and game of the Province of Quebec are amongst the most valuable of its known assets.

The value of the total yield of the commercial fisheries of Quebec for the year 1909-1910 was \$1,808,436, or nearly two millions of dollars. The largest separate items were codfish \$812,22, lobsters \$287,726, salmon \$100,000, mackerel \$99,735, herring \$89,879, and fish used as bait \$174,610. The total number of people employed in these commercial fisheries and in canneries during the same year was 12,054, and the value of their fishing crafts, fishing gear and fixtures utilized in these fisheries is estimated at \$1,097,767. X

From leases of angling and hunting territories, licenses, etc., the government of the Province derived last year a revenue of \$110,000, and this is only a very small fraction of the annual yield from this source to the people of the Province. The total outlay of visiting anglers and hunters is estimated to be nearer to two millions than to one million dollars annually. Much of this expenditure occurs in those rural districts of the Province that are most poorly adapted for agricultural operations, and where, as a rule, the settlers are comparatively poor and gladly welcome the opportunity of earning respectable wages as guides, and of selling their eggs, poultry, milk, butter etc., at lucrative prices, to sportsmen who have money to pay well for what they require on X

their holiday excursions to the rivers, lakes and forests of Quebec.

The forests of Quebec are richly stocked with game, notwithstanding the fact that some of them have been subjected to centuries of relentless hunting; and its lakes and rivers are incomparably rich in the choicest of finny inhabitants.

Moose and caribou have increased in number, rather than diminished, in certain districts of the Province, and it is claimed that in some localities the red deer has become a positive nuisance to farmers.

The finest salmon fishing in the world is the property of this Province, and the far-famed ouananiche affords the same sport nowhere else that it does in the waters of Northern Quebec.

No such trout fishing is to be had anywhere else as is offered by this Province, and it was the late Fish Culturist of New York State who remarked on one occasion, that when he wanted the very best sport of the kind, it was to Eastern Canada that he went rather than to the Adirondacks or to Maine.

X The importance of protecting our salmon rivers is illustrated by the fact that while Quebec receives as high as \$12,000 for the rental of the fishing in the Grand Cascapedia, New England streams that were once abundantly stocked with salmon have been long since completely depleted.

The fish and game branch of Hon. Mr. Devlin's department still controls the fishing in a number of unleased salmon rivers flowing into the Gulf of St. Lawrence from the eastern part of the Canadian Labrador. The Minister is quite prepared to receive and to consider offers for the lease of any of these streams for a short term of years, and permits to fish them while they remain unleased, may be had from the department, subject to the usual license fee required by law from non-resident anglers. A trip to any of these rivers, the list of which may be seen at the department, makes a delightful summer cruise. Any of them may be reached by yacht or steamer from Gaspé, Halifax, Sydney or Natashquan, to all of which points there are regular lines of steamers, while a pleasant summer outing may be had by taking the Reed Steamer "Home" at Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, for Bra-

dore and other points on the extreme east of the Canadian Labrador. Thence by schooner or fishing boat it is easy to reach any of the eastern salmon rivers on the north shore of the Gulf.

Magnificent sea trout fishing is to be had in the estuaries of all these streams, and many of them contain ouananiche as well. But it is not necessary to travel to any such distance as this for excellent trout and ouananiche fishing.

A ten hours' journey by rail, or a three hours' trip from Chicoutimi, the upper Saguenay terminus of the Richelieu Company's steamers, brings the angler to Lake St. John, the heart of the best ouananiche fishing in the world. The wildest form of the sport is enjoyed in the turbulent waters of the Grand Discharge of the great inland sea, but in almost every part of the lake good fishing is to be had in the first two months of the season.

Practically unlimited are the well stocked trout waters that reach out from Lake St. John in every direction. A score of rivers flow into the lake. The smaller ones swarm with trout; the larger ones receive dozens of subsidiary streams, equally attractive from the standpoint of the angler.

In the districts of Rimouski, of Temiscouata and of Gaspé, the same condition of affairs exists. While there is much free fishing to be had in all these territories, there are also many lakes and rivers for lease at moderate rates. The same remark applies to the northern parts of Joliette, Montcalm and Pontiac, while in much of the northern part of the Province traversed by the Transcontinental Railway, from La Tuque westwards, there is a perfect network of waterways, almost every stream and lake being richly stocked with trout of one variety or another.

In the country lying between Quebec and Lake St. John, some of the finest trout fishing in the country is to be had at Lake Edward. This is also one of the most favorable hunting grounds of the province for moose, though these animals are now very plentiful in the territory crossed by the Transcontinental railway on both sides of the St. Lawrence. In L'Islet, Temiscouata, Rimouski, Bonaventure and Gaspé, as well as in the St. Maurice district, they are also abundant, while portions of Charlevoix County are famous for their herds of caribou.

Red deer may almost always be found in this Province where moose are plentiful, and many now exist in the neighborhood of Lake St. John.

The Fur Trade

Many of the finest furs in the world come from the Province of Quebec. Those taken in Labrador and on the north shore of the St. Lawrence surpass in beauty, fineness and lustre those of all other countries. An Indian hunter of the North Shore sold a silver fox skin some time ago for \$1,500, which was subsequently resold in Paris for \$3,000. Bears, wolves, beavers, marten, muskrat, mink and different kinds of foxes are abundant. The value of the furs taken in this province has been estimated at over a million dollars annually.

Education

Enormous progress in education has been made by the Province of Quebec in recent years. There are no fewer than 6,760 schools of various kinds in the province, attended by 394,945 pupils.

Seven years ago the government's annual contribution for educational purposes was \$483,460. For the present fiscal year (1911-12) it is \$1,095,950, an increased grant of \$612,490. New technical schools are being opened in September, 1911, in both Montreal and Quebec. The School of Higher Commercial Studies, for which there is a vote of \$50,000, has been in operation in Montreal since October, 1910. Over \$100,000 annually is expended for Normal Schools, and the Montreal Polytechnic School receives \$25,000. Then there are grants of \$75,000 for school inspection and \$30,000 to the Teachers' Pension Fund. A university chair of land surveying is subsidized by government, and there are also provincial Forestry and Veterinary Schools. On the other hand, the fine arts have not been forgotten, and the financial aid given to the Quebec Academy of Music, while extremely gratifying to all lovers of art, carries with it the practical condition of competitive examinations, and a course of study in Europe for the most successful and most promising candidates who present themselves.

Contributions by ratepayers, and from school fees, etc., amount to \$5,302,139 annually.

The head of the educational system of the province is the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The department has a French secretary and an English secretary, who are, by law, the deputy heads, and who respectively represent the Catholic and Protestant schools of the province. There is no minister of education, but the provincial secretary represents the department in the legislature. The local administration of school affairs is confided to commissioners or trustees, the former representing the religious majority, whichever it may be, and the latter the minority. These are elected by the ratepayers, who pay school rates to the school board of their own religious faith.

Provincial Finances and Public Debt

The prosperity that is the prevailing characteristic of the people of the Province of Quebec is reflected in the satisfactory condition of the provincial finances. In March, 1905, the consolidated debt of the province was \$34,731,016. At the end of June, 1910, it had been reduced to \$25,661,284. No new loan has been negotiated since the Gouin Government came to power in 1905, but on the other hand, several previous loans, negotiated under preceding administrations, have been reimbursed within the last six years. The progress and prosperity of the province is such that \$1,332,879 was collected by the government from the public domain in 1909-10, as against \$879,893 in 1896-97, an increase of 51 per cent.

The ordinary revenue and expenditure of the province for the last fiscal year of which at this date there are any complete returns, namely, that of 1909-10, shows a surplus of \$1,091,354; the ordinary revenue having been \$6,571,944, and the ordinary expenditure \$5,480,590. The interest payable on the public debt, which was \$1,349,066 in 1905, is now but \$900,638, and is constantly decreasing, while the revenue of the province shows an annual and gratifying increase.

Industries

No definite figures have been available since 1901 to furnish the total value of the industries of the different provinces of the Dominion, but those of the census of 1911 are expected to show that the Province of Quebec, if not now the leading one of confederation in this respect, is at least a very close second to Ontario. The census of 1901 gave the value of Quebec's industries at \$158,287,994, and during the last decade their growth has been quite phenomenal. Amongst the most important of these are lumber pulp, paper, butter and cheese, boots and shoes, flour, foundries, cotton, printing and publishing, leather, fur garments, clothing, tobacco, cigars, etc.

A Prosperous and Happy Population

It would scarcely be possible to find anywhere a happier or more prosperous and more contented population than that of the Province of Quebec. Enjoying a healthy and invigorating climate and inhabiting a country of most marvellous natural resources and magnificent scenery where there is work for all willing hands, and healthy and invigorating sport for those who have the means and leisure to enjoy it, where the best of fresh water is everywhere abundant and churches and schools are found in every centre of population, the descendants of the early French pioneers who form the majority of the population, and the original settlers from the British Isles, the United States and elsewhere, or their descendants, mingle together in harmonious co-operation, whether in agricultural or industrial pursuits, in commercial relationships or professional, political or social life, none of them,—to quote from an address before the Canadian Club of Toronto by Sir Lomer Gouin, Prime Minister of Quebec,—“loving the land of their respective origin less, but all loving Canada—the land of their adoption—more.”

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